

“I will always support our troops and make sure that they have the resources they need. However, I am not convinced that a troop surge will solve the sectarian violence in Iraq. Our troops are doing an excellent job, but overall our military is being stretched thin. Thus, the President's new plan will require careful scrutiny and strict oversight from the Congress to make sure there is progress being made. My colleagues in Congress and I will require definite benchmarks of accountability to ensure that the Iraqi's are taking control of their own security and future. Only by lessening the American footprint in Iraq will we empower the Iraq people to take responsibility for their own self-government and ultimately, their own destiny.”